



FJC-102US

PATENT / 1700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Bernard Trevor Matthews et al. : RESPONSE UNDER
Serial No.: 09/557,418 : 37 C.F.R. 1.116
Filed: April 21, 2000 : EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
For: A NOVEL COOKED : Art Unit: 1761
SAUSAGE AND A METHOD : Examiner: Arthur L. Corbin
FOR MAKING THE SAME : Confirmation No.: 6763

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED JULY 31, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Box AF

S I R :

In response to the Final Official Action mailed July 31, 2002,
please reconsider this patent application in view of the remarks provided.

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the Examiner granting a telephone interview and offering helpful comments and suggestions. During the interview, the Swartz reference and the pending claims were discussed. More specifically, various distinctions between the Swartz reference and the pending claims were discussed, including the differences between the pH of the mixture claimed by Applicants and that taught by Swartz.

With respect to a matter of formality, Applicants' claim for foreign priority has not been acknowledged. Applicants claimed foreign priority benefits of German Patent Application Nos. 19747197.8 and 19938434.7 filed October 24, 1997 and August 13, 1999, respectively, for the present invention. A Claim to Right of Priority was filed on September 12, 2000. Applicants respectfully request acknowledgement of the claim for foreign priority.